In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

D1 This patent application is a continuation application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/061,400, filed on April 16, 1998 (U.S. Patent No. 6,077,936), which in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 08/843,459, filed April 16, 1997 (U.S. Patent No. 6,162,616), the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

D2 FIGURE 1A-G is a text representation of an MRP-β cDNA sequence and of the polypeptide sequence encoded therein, as set forth in SEQ ID Nos: 1 and 2.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

D3 FIGURE 2A-F is a text representation comprising aligned amino acid sequences of the known ABC Transporter Protein superfamily member MRP (described in Deeley et al. (1996) U.S. Patent 5,489,519), and of the novel MRP-β disclosed herein. Dashes (-) indicate gaps introduced to maximize alignment of similar sequences; colons (:) indicate the locations of identical aligned amino acid residues.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 35, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The present host cells initially are expected to facilitate production of MRP-β polypeptides and structural and functional analysis thereof. The MRP-β polypeptide comprising SEQ ID No: 2 is expected to bind ATP, and to be an integral, multispanning transmembrane protein generally as described in Almquist et al. (1995), 55 Cancer Res. 102-110. A significant portion of the total MRP-β produced in host cells is expected to span the cells' plasma membrane, with an additional portion being present intracellularly, e.g., in the endoplasmic reticulum and/or the Golgi apparatus. Thus, MRP-β host cells are expected to display extracellular portions of the multispanning MRP-β polypeptide on the cell surface, appropriately configured to mediate the ATP-dependent sequestration or export (efflux) of a plurality of cytotoxic drugs, including drugs conventionally used as chemotherapeutic agents. These general properties are deduced from an assessment of the primary structure (sequence) of the MRP-β polypeptide. MRP-β is considered to be a novel member of the ABC Transporter Protein superfamily and is deemed likely to contribute to multidrug-resistance phenotypes by mediating drug transport across cellular phospholipid membranes. FIGURE 2A-F sets forth an exemplary sequence alignment of the disclosed novel MRP-β polypeptide (SEQ ID No: 2), with relevant sequence of the MRP polypeptide of Deeley et al. (1996), U.S. Patent No. 5,489,519 (SwissProt P33527, 1531 aa). The alignment was generated using the ALIGN algorithm (which calculates a global alignment of two sequences), version 2.0 (Myers and Miller (1989) CABIOS), scoring matrix: PAM120, gap penalties: -12/-4, 30.9% identity, global alignment score: 1214.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 55, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A nucleic acid probe corresponding to the SEQ ID No: 3 unique fragment was prepared by conventional techniques. This probe was used for hybridization screening of the HUMVEC expression library for the presence of MRP-β cDNAs. This procedure yielded an MRP-β cDNA (residues 67-4847 FIGURE 1A-G and SEQ ID No: 1), 4.78 kb (kilobases) in length. The clone comprising this cDNA insert has been designated fohd013a05m and deposited with the American Type Culture Collection. Two independent cDNA clones comprising approximately 60 residues upstream (5') from the fohd013a05m MRP-β insert were isolated by hybridization screening of human brain and